

Council of Europe
The Secretary General

Strasbourg, 9 September 2015

Dear Organisers and Participants,

I should like to extend to you my best wishes for a successful and peaceful Belgrade Pride Parade 2015.

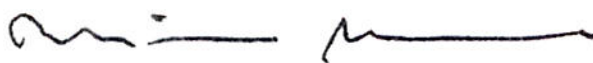
I hope that, as last year, the Serbian authorities will ensure full compliance with both the letter of the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Serbia is a High Contracting Party, and the relevant jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons do not ask for special rights, but simply for the respect of their human rights and dignity as for any other individual, including the principles of equality and non-discrimination in accessing these rights and the freedoms of expression, assembly and association.

The message of the Pride Parade is simple and universal: everyone has the right to express their identity peacefully, free from violence or discrimination.

The Council of Europe continues to support you in exercising this basic freedom. I have asked the Head of the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade, Tim Cartwright, to represent me at your events and to express our commitment to your purpose.

Yours sincerely,



Thorbjørn Jagland

Letter addressed to Organisers and Participants
Belgrade Pride Parade 2015

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